

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6-7 and 14-17 were pending in the application following the filing of an RCE and amendment March 31, 2009. Claims 6, 7, and 14 are cancelled; claims 1, 4, 15 and 17 are now pending in the application. Reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 1, 4, 6-7 and 14-17 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to satisfy the enablement requirement, because, *inter alia*, the specification establishes no causal link between sepsis and the antibodies. according to the Office Action, the specification is enabling for: "a method for determining an increased risk of sepsis in a patient following a sepsis-risk event said method comprising determining the amount of nati-asialo-GM1 antibodies (anti-AGM1 antibodies) of the IgG and/or IgA type in blood of a patient following the sepsis-risk event, wherein an elevated concentration of anti-asialo-GM1 antibodies in said blood compared to a healthy individual is indicative of an increased risk of sepsis..."

Claim 1 is amended above to focus the method on this particular embodiment, that is, determining an increased risk of sepsis in patients following a sepsis-risk event, such as surgery, burn etc.

In view of the foregoing amendment, the claims are now in condition for allowance and reconsideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested. Should there be anything additional which would place the case in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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